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Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

NO SHOCKS IN RASIC'S CUP SQUAD

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Rale Rasic sprung few surprises last week when he announced his preliminary Australian World Cup squad of 40 players.

Almost every member of last year's qualifying squads has been chosen, as well as a few new faces drawn from the ranks of the under-23 team which starts its Indonesian tour this week.

Unless I am very surprised, Rasic will settle for the only course of action open to him, and most probably take the bulk of his 1973 squad to the finals.

Germany won't be the place to experiment.

The preliminary squad of 40 (with my choices for the final 22 for Germany in bold type) is:

● **Goalkeepers:** J. Reilly (Vic.), J. Milasavjevic (Vic.), J. Fraser (NSW), A. Maher (NSW).

● **Defenders:** D. Utjesenovic (NSW), C. Curran (NSW), H. Williams (NSW), S. Perry (NSW), M. Pye (Vic.), R. McGinn (NSW), G. Harris (NSW), P. Wilson (NSW), M. Schaefer (NSW), I. Rudic (NSW), J. Watkins (NSW), C. Bennett (NSW), J. Russell (NSW).

● **Midfielders:** J. Richards (NSW), J. Mackay (NSW), J. Rooney (NSW), J. McDonald (NSW), P. Bourne (Vic.), I. Marshall (Vic.), J. Warren (NSW), D. Harding (NSW).

● **Strikers:** A. Abonyi (NSW), A. Alston (NSW), B. Buljevic (Vic.), T. Butler (NSW), R. Baartz (NSW), B. Vojtek (NSW), P. Ollerton (NSW), W. Rogers (NSW), G. Mammel (NSW), J. Nyskohus (SA), M. Micevski (Vic.), R. Pocock (NSW), E. Campbell (NSW), M. Tolson (NSW), I. Steele (Qld).

Some facts about the preliminary squad:

● Thirty-one players are from NSW, but nine hailed originally from Victoria, two from Newcastle and one from Queensland.

● The squad has a 40% Australian-born content (16 out of 40).

● The countries of origin of the other players are Scotland (10), England (6), Yugo-

slavia (5), Germany (1), South Africa (1) and Hungary (1). The following were born in Australia: Milasavjevic, Fraser, Maher, Curran, Williams, Perry, Harris, Bennett, Russell, Warren, Butler, Mammel, Nyskohus, Campbell and Tolson.

Scotland provided Reilly, Pye, McGinn, Mackay, Rooney, McDonald, Bourne, Marshall, Harding and Ollerton and England Wilson, Watkins, Richards, Alston, Pocock and Steele.

Micevski, Vojtek, Rudic, Buljevic and Utjesenovic were born in Yugoslavia; Schaefer in Germany, Abonyi in Hungary and Billy Rogers in South Africa.



Auburn goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski and team-mates Les Hucker (6), Steve Leak (5) and Derek Sidey (7) are powerless to prevent Peter Ollerton from scoring APIA's first goal with this diving header at Lambert Park last Sunday. APIA won 3-2.

Aussie Under-23s start Indo. tour

The Young Roos flexed their tails and hopped off for Jakarta yesterday after two preliminary get-togethers and four days under the schoolmasterish eyes of National Coaching Director Eric Worthington and the aldermanic attention of long-time national team official, Ian Brusasco of Brisbane.

The Australian under-23s will play three matches in conjunction with the Pacific Area Travel Association conference in Jakarta. These will be April 2 (Jakarta), April 4, (Surabaya) and April 6 at Palembang in Sumatra.

Judging from the squad's performance before the Australia-Auckland encounter, there is indeed a ton of talent in the squad.

All this in spite of the situation whereunder leading NSW clubs were not prepared to release under-23

players, and States were accorded some representation without fully applying the testing yardstick of merit.

Mike Micevski deservedly won his place, and it was great to see this stylish young Victorian selected by Rale Rasic in the national senior squad of 40 as well.

Equally constructive and boasting a great shot is young Joe Palinkas, another Victorian.

"Crow-eater" Johnny Nyskohus also has every chance of holding on to the left wing berth.

Stoppers may not be the strength of the team, but Ian Fagan of Brisbane and

Murray Barnes' style is well known around Sydney, and his height and command could well be a big factor in upsetting the ball-playing Indonesians' flowing style.

Marconi's improving Gary Byrne stands to win a mid-field position — definitely going ahead, this lad, in his use of the ball.

West Australia's Mateljan and Davidson could also be very useful according to coach Eric Worthington. A cup-tie in one case and a family bereavement in the other prevented them from coming through to Sydney last week.

There's no chance of the goalkeeping department letting the side down.

(continued on page 5)

BOOK ON WORLD CUP

All you want to know about the 1974 World Cup — yes, this is the amazing content of this Soccer World publication, out next month.

It will enable you to follow the exciting events in the World Cup finals in June and July.

At the same time, "World Cup 1974" also gives you all the facts about previous World Cups, about Australia's past challenges as well as a detailed guide to moving around in Germany.

Interested? Watch for next week's summary about the book you will not want to miss.



Raul Carrizo (Pan Hellenic) strikes a classic pose in winning this duel for possession from Canterbury's Greg Brown at Wentworth Park last weekend.

N.S.W. FIRST DIVISION

TEAMS	AGGREGATE						HOME						AWAY					
	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
St. George	2	—	—	8	1	4	2	—	—	8	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Safeway	2	—	—	4	0	4	2	—	—	4	0	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pan Hellenic	1	—	—	6	1	2	1	—	—	6	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
APIA	1	—	—	3	2	2	1	—	—	3	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
West	1	—	—	1	0	2	1	—	—	1	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marconi	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1
Yugal-Prague	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Auburn	—	—	1	2	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	0	0
Hakoah	—	—	1	0	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0	2	0	0
Sutherland	—	—	1	0	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0	2	0	0
Croatia	—	—	2	0	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0	3	0	0
Canterbury	—	—	2	2	12	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	12	0	0

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Second Show: THE VILSTEYS.

Sunday, March 31: ALAN CHARLES.

Tuesday, April 2: Regular BRIDGE and CANASTA Tournaments.

Wednesday, April 3: RUEL KAY.

Friday, April 5: YOUTH NIGHT.

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Saturday, March 30: TERRY KING — "Mr. Versatility".

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE FOR MEMBERS OF

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Saturday, March 30: Swing with "The Trend". Guest artists: "THE MARVETTES" — acrobatic duo.

Sunday, March 31: DANCE with "THE TREND" and "MOTIVATION" with rich repertoire, versatility and latest hits.

Tuesday, April 2: FILMS from Yugoslavia.

Wednesday, April 3: SPORTS NIGHT. First night of INTER-CLUB selection competition for indoor sports. Selected sport films.

Thursday, April 4: INTERNATIONAL CABARET.

club patrol

"Advance Australia Fair" will be Australia's NATIONAL ANTHEM at the World Cup. This was confirmed by the Foreign Affairs Department in Canberra this week after consultation with the ASF.

The ST. GEORGE RE-UNION for players, officials and all persons who have been associated with the club, will be held on April 8 at Soccer House. The reunion will mark the first anniversary of the unveiling of the John Galambos plaque at the club. During the evening a film of the 1953 classic between England and Hungary at Wembley will be screened.

The McPHERSON's under-12 knockout competition starts this Sunday at Progress Park, Auburn, with 64 teams participating. More than 5,000 people turned out last year to see St. George Police Boys' Club win the trophy. All competing players receive a pennant and a McPHERSON arm badge. This is one of the biggest competitions of its kind in the world.

PETER STONE, Western Suburbs' young midfielder, is improving his skills well. Les Scheinflug foresees ultimately an important first team role for his charge.

HENRY MOWBRAY, the capable left-back acquisition for Hakoah-East, was formerly with the Scottish club, Cowdenbeath. He lost no time in settling into the team's style.

The big potential KINGSFORD club came in to fill the Inter-Suburban Third Division vacancy when Holroyd went up to take West St. George's place in Division II. Club secretary is G. Theodore, 2/2 Gardeners Rd., Kingsford, 2032; phone 371-4408. Home ground will be Turruwul Park, Rosebery.

The next meeting of the BEEF & BURGUNDY CLUB will be held on Wednesday, April 3, at the British Ex-Services Club in Kent Street. Members can book with Roger Dewick (28-1441) or Frank Sbis (59-3437).

MARCONI CLUB is planning for some big celebrations this year — centenary of the birth of Italy's famous son, Guglielmo Marconi.

Yugal-Prague brought RAY ROOTSEY up from Bega for last Sunday's match against Marconi at the Athletic Field. Ray tightened the defence OK, but the catch is that he had to take a plane from Merimbula Airport on Saturday morning and his only suitable flight back is a.m. Monday. Ray is an engineer with the DMR involved in the new Tathra Bridge, due to be completed next Christmas.

RICHARD ALAGICH, after his long experience in football coaching in Yugoslavia, feels that not enough is being done to work correctly on Australian talent. He is now a teacher at Manly High School.

Marconi Fairfield president FRANK LABOZZETTA is about to spend four weeks in Italy and the UK. He will link up with Marconi Social Club president IGNAZIO SPIGA, at present in Rome and will seek new players in discussion with Marconi's Irish agent.

Canterbury are believed to be interested in fielding experienced RAUL BLANCO in a midfield role.

Yugal-Prague took a risk by signing goalkeeper JIM PETROVSKI from Melbourne Macedonia and bringing him to Sydney to replace Jan Tuinman. Petrovski, not short of confidence, made one error in failing to go down to a low cross, but otherwise he played well enough, and could cement his position in the Blues' line-up.

In the Australian UNDER-23 trial last week: Gold (No 1) (J. Palinkas, M. Micevski, J. Nyskohus) drew with Green (No 2) (T. Butcher, W. Valeri, J. Senkalski) at Sydney Sports Ground.

IAN CUTHBERT, the Safeway leftback, has started training with Balgownie and will soon sign with the club.

Last Saturday the PARRAMATTA GOAL soccer side turned tables on the Referees

XI, winning 5-0 with some do-or-die tackling in rainy conditions. The match was played in a very good spirit on a nice pitch located within the prison walls.

KAZ KULAK, the classy Polonia defender, has advised the club he will be leaving Australia to take a coaching job in Indonesia starting on May 4.

Just before their first match against Newtown, Balgownie signed Sutherland midfielder JOHN LAVAN who was a second half replacement last Saturday.

MARCONI'S UK agent hopes to have a good forward arriving at Mascot on Wednesday if all goes to plan. A full North Ireland international, he was captain and striker for the Irish under-23 side. His name is Billy Millen.

DOUG STEWART, who coached Canterbury last year, will coach the Canberra under-16 representative team

in the 1964 national championships. Stewart recently took up a position as deputy principal of the Holder Primary School.

PETER EHRENS, a 22-year-old goalkeeper from West Sutherland, has joined Rapid Riverside. Another acquisition is BILL PROPHET, from Marrickville, who is now captaining Rapid.

The Australian under-23 team was quarantined from last Monday at the Asot Motor Inn, Wahroonga, and conducted further training sessions under ERIC WORTHINGTON in the area.

Yugal-Prague speedster JOE ALAGICH leaves in eight weeks time with his family for a trip around Europe.

KLAUS BERGNER, a former East German First Division player who played with present East German national coach Georg Buschner at Carl Zeiss Jena, is in Australia on a business trip.

READERS' LETTERS

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Instructions: Take one instant NSW under-23 team — Maher, Steve Perry, Leale, Lynch, Richie Bell, Whalley, Russell, Byrne, Deiler, Ollerton and Terry Butler.

Add two strikers who should be in the World Cup squad — J. Nyskohus (SA) and Micevski (Vic); blend in the safety of Milesevic (Vic) and Madeschi (NSW), the defence of Chichinski (SA), Bannon (Vic) and Turquino (Vic); the creativity of I. Fagan (Old.) and Senkalski (N. NSW), and the striking power of Barnes (NSW) and Werrin (N. NSW).

Season with a 1975 tour of Europe at under-23 level and a 1976 world tour as a national team; garnish with G. Harris, Harry Williams and other survivors of the 1974 World Cup.

Top off with a strong coach, with attacking football in mind, gizz with Central European skills and tactics; bake under half a million dollars of sponsorship and government support, and voila!

A fully-baked Australian national team ready to present to the world as 1978 World Cup quarterfinalists.

C.M. DUNKERLEY, Gladesville.

WEST RYDE

I was interested to note Keith Gilmour's report on West Ryde's promotion to Federation Third Division for the coming 1974 football season.

Firstly, I say congratulations West Ryde and secondly I predict that the club will perform particularly well in that division.

On a less pleasant note, I was disappointed to read that John Glyn, president of Nepean United was not happy with the situation.

What more does he expect West Ryde to do?

He speaks of a possible play-off between West Ryde, Bondi, Chelsea and his club, Nepean United.

Mr. Aulden Brown's reasoning in promoting West Ryde was sound but, if a play-off with other inter-suburban clubs was found necessary, I fail to see why Nepean United should be considered.

After all, Bondi Marine were next cab off the rack behind West Ryde.

Keith Gilmour refers to the need for the outer-district clubs to win promotion.

Win should be the key word here. Promotion is not a gift handed down on a silver platter — it must be earned on the field.

I would suggest that in 1975 we will see an outer western suburbs team in Third Division — Toongabie!

M. RYDING, West Ryde.

"SMALLTALK"

Mike Renwick is to be congratulated for his excellent "Smalltalk" of March 15.

Although I have nothing but admiration for Rale Rasic's coaching ability, I must voice my deep concern over some of his latest selections.

Please let me illustrate: Ever since the 1970 tour Jack Reilly has been completely uncooperative, to say the least.

Despite this, he is now recalled for duty whilst others, e.g., Doyle and Keddie, are still punished for their 1970 "sins".

Rale Rasic has recently been quoted saying that he won't be guided by sentiment and past reputations and that "only the players in top form and fitness will be selected".

Well, that is indeed an admirable policy, but how can Rale Rasic remain faithful to "an out of touch" Jimmy Mackay and select an equally out of form 31-year-old Ivo Rudic?

The latter is presumably, and rather predictably since joining Pan Hellenic, "groomed" to replace John Wankles. Yet Wankles was one of the best performers against Iran, even in the opinion of the Iranians themselves.

As for John Warren, what one can say other than express regret.

A large part of Australia's recent successes is due to the spirit and complete devotion of players such as Warren.

If it is good enough for the Brazilians to attempt to include "an over the hill" Pele in their squad, surely Rale Rasic can fill the 22nd World Cup spot with Warren.

The point I wish to make is this: it is not only the performance of the national team that matters, but also the manner in which selections are made.

A little objectivity would not go astray, indeed it may enhance the image of Australian soccer.

G. STEFANO, Westmead.

WORLD CUP TICKETS FOR SALE

- Scotland-Zaire (Dortmund, June 14)
- Yugoslavia-Zaire (Gelsenkirchen, June 18)
- Sweden-Uruguay (Dusseldorf, June 23)

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CHAMPIONSHIP 1974

MARCONI v. ST. GEORGE WILL TOP THE BILL

— By LOU GAUTIER —

All First Division matches will be played on Sunday this week with the Bossley Park clash between competition leaders St. George-Budapest and the only unbeaten team in Sydney this season, Marconi, clearly the "match of the round".

Bad weather last week shrunk attendances, but the fans could be out in droves again on Sunday as all six games look particularly attractive.

The outlooks as I see them:

Sutherland v. Pan Hellenic

Pan Hellenic's return to form against Canterbury should help attract a bumper crowd to Seymour Shaw Park.

Sutherland cannot feel too confident without their

A lot will depend on how his young deputy, Haynes, stands up to his tough baptism of fire — and it couldn't be tougher as Gary Manuel will be back to lead the Hellenic attack.

Pan Hellenic, on the other hand, should have no further goalkeeping problems if Jan Tuinman's scintillating debut last week was a preview of things to come.

I take the visitors to win.

Auburn v.

Yugal-Prague

Auburn's stubborn fight-back last Sunday proved that their Ampol Cup hiding was just one of those freak results which spares no team.

The narrow loss to APIA should work wonders for Auburn's morale and put them in good stead at Mona Park.

It was good also to see Yugal-Prague shake off their Ampol blues to snatch a point off Marconi.

Despite the loss of key players, Yugal-Prague may just have enough skill and maturity to escape any worries this season.

I expect a hard fought match between two very dissimilar teams to end in a just draw.

Hakoah v. Safeway

United are coming to Sydney with a 100 per cent record from their first two games — and with hopes of stretching their unbeaten league record.

Both teams flopped in the Ampol Cup, but whereas Safeway seem to have recaptured their best form, Hakoah are still struggling.

With Max Tolson and Adrian Alston starting to hit the high notes, the Hakoah defence will be on tenterhooks.

Hakoah, however, showed some improvement last Friday despite their two-goal defeat by Saints. A repeat performance may just be enough to keep both points at Wentworth Park this weekend.

Marconi v. St. George

Will St. George be the first team to beat Marconi this year?

Marconi may not have captured many headlines so

Saints have had one of their best starts to any season, and what's more they are also playing like potential champions.

They have a grand record at Bossley Park and will be hard to beat though Ray Richards will be back to lead the Marconi midfield.

The match seems certain to develop into a battle royal between the St. George attack and Marconi's rigorous defence, as well marshalled as ever by the evergreen Alfredo Moschen.

Croatia v. APIA

Croatia will be hard pressed to make it third time lucky this week.

They will in all probability lose, their third straight league match against the Ampol Cup winners, whom they have already met twice this season.

Croatia would love to beat APIA to get revenge for their unfortunate Cup elimination on a technicality. But the tall men of the APIA attack and the midfield mastery of Rooney and Russell should consolidate the Leichhardt club near the top of the ladder.

Croatia will just have to acquire forwards who can shoot and score goals if they want to achieve middle of the table status. They won't get anywhere with only one real striker — Derek Smith.

Canterbury v. Western Suburbs

Beaten 1-6 in their first two outings, will it be point, set and match against Wests at Arlington?

On paper the Berries' task looks formidable, all but hopeless.



COL CURRAN

Wests were solid in beating Croatia last week and though they don't have the forwards to score freely, I would be most surprised if they don't come away with at least a two-goal margin victory.

A lot of interest will again centre on West's new English signing, Mike Trebilcock, who created a fine impression until his condition ran out against Croatia. Star Indonesian forward, Iswadi, is expected to make his Australian debut too.



JAN TUINMAN

star player, goalkeeper Alan Maher, in Indonesia with the under-23 national team.

TEAM OF THE WEEK

MAHER (Sutherland)
TRKULJA (Yugal-Prague)
RUDIC (Pan Hellenic)
FERGUSON (Wests)
THOMPSON (Canterbury)
STODDART (St. George)
BLUES (APIA)
HARDING (Pan Hellenic)
TOLSON (Safeway)
CARRIZO (Pan Hellenic)
BUTLER (APIA)

TIPSTERS' CORNER

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

	Canterbury	L.	M. Renwick	K. Gilmour	C. Spiteri	E. Jordan	Most favored
Canterbury v. Wests	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Croatia v. APIA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sutherland v. Pan Hellenic	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Hakoah v. Safeway	1	x	1	2	1	1	2
Marconi v. St. George	2	2	2	x	2	2	2
Auburn v. Yugal-Prague	x	1	x	1	1	1	1
Marrickville v. Melita	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Granville v. Corinthians	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
NS-Inter v. Rapid	1	x	1	2	x	1	1
Balgownie v. Polonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bankstown v. Newtown	1	x	1	2	1	1	1
Manly v. Guildford	1	1	x	1	1	1	1

How they tipped: L. Gautier 7; K. Gilmour 6; F. Jordan 6; M. Renwick 6; C. Spiteri 6.



MANFRED SCHAEFER

far this season, but they still haven't felt the bitter taste of defeat in 1974.

REFEREES

First Division: Canterbury v. Wests — A. McKenzie; Croatia v. APIA — G. Warner; Sutherland v. Pan Hellenic — T. Davies; Hakoah v. Safeway — A. Boskovic; Marconi v. St. George — P. Rampley; Auburn v. Yugal-Prague — B. Wilkinson.

Second Division: Marrickville v. Melita Eagles — F. Sbita; Granville v. Corinthians — E. Truppe; NS-Inter v. Rapid — K. Small; Balgownie v. Polonia — H. Watschke; Bankstown v. Newtown — R. Lorenz; Manly v. Guildford — J. Henkelman.

CROWDS

Last week's attendance: 11,590 (11,757).
Average per match: 1,932 (1,959).
● In brackets, last year's corresponding figures.

VITAL STATISTICS

Canterbury v. Wests 0-0-2

Their only First Division clashes were in 1971 when Wests won both matches 1-0 and 3-2.

Sunday's game will be the Berries' 295th in First Division and Wests' 68th.

Croatia v. APIA 5-6-11

Croatia only beat APIA once since 1967 (1-0 at Lambert Park in 1971) — a far cry from the mid-sixties when they pulled off some memorable wins.

Sutherland v. Pan Hellenic 1-0-3

Last year Hellenic had a clean sweep, which included a hard fought 3-2 victory at Seymour Shaw Park where in 1972 Sutherland won easily 3-0.

Hakoah v. Safeway 11-9-6

Hakoah have only lost once in their last 17 encounters, but at Wentworth Park United have forced six draws.

Marconi v. St. George 3-0-5

Marconi Oval is a happy hunting ground for the Saints.

They've won every match there since Marconi were promoted, scoring 11 goals and only conceding one in the process.

Auburn v. Yugal-Prague 3-4-7

At Mona Park last season the teams drew 0-0.

Auburn have a poor home record against Yugal. Their only victory was a whopping 9-2 way back in 1963.

RESULT SCOREBOARD

	Hakoah	Marconi	St. George	Wests	APIA	Safeway	Yugal-Prague	Croatia	Pan Hellenic	Auburn	Sutherland	Canterbury
Hakoah	●											
Marconi	2-0	●										
St. George			●									
Wests				●								
APIA					●							
Safeway						●						
Yugal-Prague							●					
Croatia								●				
Pan Hellenic									●			
Auburn										●		
Sutherland											●	
Canterbury												●
Hakoah												
Marconi												
St. George												
Wests												
APIA												
Safeway												
Yugal-Prague												
Croatia												
Pan Hellenic												
Auburn												
Sutherland												
Canterbury												

TEAMS

CANTERBURY

FUZES
G. BROWN
WHITEHEAD
XIPOLITAS
J. XIPOLITAS
BALAFAS
ARMYTAGE
KRI
POCOCK
PIATTA
R. BROWN

WESTS

EATON
PERRY
CURRAN
FERGUSON
RACLIFFE
GRAY
TREBILCOCK
TURNER
LINDSAY
T. SMITH
ISWADI

CROATIA

CORRY
R. JOHNSTON
M. HARRIS
BRADY
YAGGER
WHALLEY
DOYLE
NIXON
SULLIVAN
D. SMITH
VOJTEK

APIA

ROBERTS
MCGINN
JENKINS
WALLACE
MCGHEE
RUSSELL
BOSSEY
ROONEY
OLLERTON
ROGERS
BUTLER

SUTHERLAND

HAYNES
BRANSON
BENNETT
P. SMITH
WYKES
JOHNSTON
R. GRIFFITHS
TRAIL
THOMPSON
SUGGETT
CACCIOIA

PAN HELLENIC

TUINMAN
STOWELL
RUDIC
BARBOUITIS
PAXER
BUCKLEY
CARRIZO
HARDING
BANKIN
MANUEL
ILE

HAKOAH

COE
FEKETE
MOWBRAY
WATKINS
MARNOCCH
MACKAY
WATSON
DOLAN
FLETCHER
BLAZETZ
TRACEY

SAFEGWAY

HESFORD
TUCKERMAN
WILSON
GLEESON
THOMPSON
BIRNIE
FRYER
MCGRITTY
TOLSON
ALSTON
RIGBY

MARCONI

MURRAY
DEGNEY
ROCKFORD
ROCHE
MOSCHEN
RICHARDS
SAMUEL
CAMERON
MIHAJEVIC
JONES
A. GRIFFITHS

ST. GEORGE

FRASER
UTJESNOVIC
WILLIAMS
SCHAEFER
COTTON
STODDART
HERRON
ABONVI
WARREN
HAMILTON
J. McDONALD

AUBURN

HOSZOWSKI
McMILLAN
HUGHES
MALONE
LEAK
HUCKER
QUESTED
SIDIE
DELLER
KEDDIE
WALKER

YUGAL-PRAGUE

PETROVSKI
TRKULJA
BOSKOVSKI
VELKOVSKI
ROOZEY
S. McDONALD
J. ALAGICH
MIHAJEVIC
SERDAREVIC
TAKAC
PERRY

SYDNEY SCORES

FOR
BEST
RESULTS

SHOP AT YOUR NEAREST
Westfield SHOPPINGTOWN
BURWOOD, EASTWOOD, FIGTREE (Wollongong)
HORNSBY, LIVERPOOL and MIRANDA.

RESULTS & SCORERS

St. George

2 (0)

Stoddart 83 min., Warren 87 min.

Hakoah

0 (0)

Wests

1 (0)

Lindsay 62 min.

Croatia

0 (0)

P. Hellenic

6 (4)

Brankin 5 min., Harding 16 and 20 (penalty) mins., Carrizo 40 min., Buckley 79 min., Rudic 89 min.

Canterbury

1 (1)

Pocock (pen.) 44 min.

Yugal-Prague

1 (0)

Serdarevic 67 min.

Marconi

1 (0)

Samuel 50 min.

A.P.I.A.

3 (2)

Ollerton 15 min., Butler 40 min., Rogers 49 min.

Auburn

2 (0)

Sidley 72 and 74 mins.

Safeway

2 (0)

Tolson 70 min., Rigby 89 min.

Sutherland

0 (0)

HOW THEY LINED UP

Fraser 4, Utjesenovic 3, G. Harris 3, Schaefer 4, Coran 4, Stoddart 4, Herton 4, Abonyi 3, Warren 4, B. Harris 4 (W. Hamilton 75 min.), McDonald 3

TOTAL: 40.

Coach: M. Johnson.

Match rating: * * * *

Coe 3, Fekete 3, Mowbray 4, Watkiss 4, Marnock 4, Mackay 3, Watson 3, Dolan 4, Fletcher 3, Baartz 4, Tracey 3.

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: D. MacLaren.

Eaton 3, Perry 3, Curran 3, Ferguson 4, Radcliffe 4, Gray 4, Trebilcock 4, Turner 3, Lindsay 4, T. Smith 3, Byles 3.

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: L. Scheinffing.

Match rating: * * * *

Corry 4, R. Johnson 3, M. Harris 3, Brady 4, Yaeger 3, Whalley 4, Doyle 3, Nixon 4 (replaced Duma, 2 second half), Sullivan 3, D. Smith 3, Vojtek 3.

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: M. Kls.

Tuimman 5, Fieldhouse 3 (Buckley 60 min.), Rudic 4, Barboutis 4, Palmer 3, Stowell 4 (Ekononou 81 min.), Cullerton 3, Harding 4, Brankin 4, Carrizo 4, Ile 4.

TOTAL: 42.

Coach: J. Kangeros.

Match rating: * * *

Fuzes 3, G. Brown 3, Whitehead 3 (replaced Henderson 24 min.), H. Xipolitis 2, J. Xipolitis 2, Balafas 2, Armytage 2, Kori 4, Pocock 3, Mullen 2 (Piatta 82 min.), R. Brown 3.

TOTAL: 29.

Coach: L. Hegges.

Petrovski 3, Tckulja 4, Boskovski 4, Velkovski 4, Rootsey 3, McDonald 3, Alagich 3, Mihajlovic 3, Walsh (replaced by Serdarevic 27 min. 3), Takac 4, Perry 3 (replaced by Kuzmanov 56 min.).

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: S. Dacevski.

Match rating: * * *

Murray 3, Degney 3, Robertson 3, Byrne 4, Moschen 4, Mihajlovic 3, Samuel 3, Campbell 3, Colusso 3, B. Jones 4, Griffiths 3.

TOTAL: 36.

Coach: L. Baumgartner.

Roberts 3, McGinn 4, Jenkins 4, Wallace 4, McGhee 3, Russell 3 Blues 5 (Clarke 74 min.), Rooney 4, Ollerton 4, Rogers 3 (Dal Farno 86 min.), Butler 4.

TOTAL: 41.

Coach: T. Anderson.

Match rating: * * * *

Hoszowski 5, McMillan 3, Hughes 3, Malone 4, Leak 4, Hucker 4, Quested 4, Sidley 3, Keddle 3 (Spinks 85 min.), Walker 2, Parker 8 (Stewart 64 min.).

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: J. Marston.

Hesford 4, Tuckerman 4, Wilson 4, Gleeson 4, Thompson 4, Fryer 3, McGrotty 4, Tolson 5, Alston 4, Rigby 4.

TOTAL: 44.

Coach: P. Wilson.

Match rating: * * * *

Maher 5, Branson 4, Bennett 3, P. Smith 3, Wykes 4, Johnston 3, R. Griffiths 3 (Miller 83 min.), Trail 4, Thompson 3, Suggitt 3, Cacciola 3 (Bourke 79 min.).

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: J. Livingstone.

SUMMING UP THE MATCHES

It would have taken a Hakoah miracle to switch off the St. George power over the last 20 minutes of their sparkling encounter at the Sportsground. The emerald green pitch — sloshy underfoot as the rain cascaded down — simply crackedled as the Saints shrugged off the tackles, forcing Hakoah to defend as Ray Baartz drove the ball ahead to relieve the pressure. John Stoddart's electrifying 50-metre burst shot flashed into the net with seven minutes to go. Then, to emphasise the point, John Warren evaded Hakoah's defence to flick in another goal. Warren hit the deck with an injury immediately after, suffering a blow that was utterly unnecessary. A lot of the early damage that ultimately broke down the Hakoah resistance came from Jimmy Herron, who took on his man and shielded the ball with gusto. Crowd: 1,300.

Referee: B. Wilkinson.

— KEITH GILMOUR

The match was surprisingly entertaining despite the atrocious condition of the water-logged Arlington pitch. After a shaky opening stanza, both teams were quick to find their feet on the treacherous surface and provided plenty of end to end stuff for the small crowd which braved the elements. Wests deserved their narrow win. They always held a slight edge in most departments. In defence their tackling was deadly effective and in attack they created more chances, especially with high balls in the goalmouth. Croatia erred by persisting to play the ball square and low — an impossible task on a mudheap. English import Mike Trebilcock created a good impression, especially in the first half, in his Australian debut and looks like a first-class catch. A feature of the match was the way Croatia's strikers fell for Wests' offside trap. Crowd: 650.

Referee: A. Boskovic.

— LOU GAUTIER

Pan Hellenic had the game won after only 20 minutes when they already led 3-0. The pathetically weak Canterbury defence was in difficulty straight from the kick-off against a smooth-running Hellenic, playing infinitely better than in their most recent Ampol Cup outings. The Xipolitis brothers were unable to hold Carrizo and Co. and their shakiness soon spread to the other members of the Canterbury defence. With a 4-1 lead at the break, Pan Hellenic were expected to carry on in the same vein after the interval, but, surprisingly, the Berries came out full of fight and it was only some brilliant goalkeeping by Jan Tuimman that stopped Canterbury pulling back at least two goals. Hellenic's play deteriorated considerably in the second half and it was only in the last 10 minutes that they gained a new lease of life to blast two more goals past Peter Fuzes. Crowd: 3,102.

Referee: P. Rampley.

— LOU GAUTIER

The first half is best forgotten, but in contrast the second started with a snapshot from Marconi's Barry Jones, that Yugal's replacement for Jan Tuimman — Jim Petrovski — did well to push around the post. Marconi took it on from there, ending with a nice move from Alan Griffith, across goal to Jones who slipped it out for Gil. Samuel to net one of his special low drives. Then Marconi let the initiative slip, and a Takac freekick after Gary Byrne was penalised saw Nick Serdarevic rise beautifully for a headed equaliser. The Yugal side got rid of a lot of sweat from there. They made most of the chances and only hasty shooting and not quite enough fitness separated them from a win instead of a draw.

Crowd: 1,225.

Referee: G. Warne.

— KEITH GILMOUR

APIA could and should have won by a much bigger margin after a powerhouse, action-packed performance. Midfielders John Wallace and Jim Rooney dominated the game for APIA until midway through the second half. In this period APIA scored three goals and missed another half a dozen playing some excellent football in the process. The alert George Blues and Peter Ollerton were extremely dangerous when in possession in a combined effort which was hard to fault. Yet, in a two-minute lapse, the hard pressed Auburn were able to breakthrough twice and score on both occasions! Frank Malone and Gary Quested had a great game for Auburn, but the pick of the team was young goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski, who made some breath-taking saves under considerable pressure.

Crowd: 3,248.

Referee: T. Davies.

— CHARLES SPITERI

Max Tolson led Safeway to a deserved win in a match full of interest for the drunched spectators. Tolson had a grand game and headed home United's first goal in the 70th minute from an Alston pass. Playing on a boggy pitch did not prevent the locals from producing some first-class football under adverse conditions. In the 11th and 19th minutes Tolson and then McGrotty shook the Sutherland crossbar with thundering drives. Alan Maher made several superb saves and one memorable one from a Tolson 12-metre drive midway through the first half. Sutherland created three clear chances, all in the first quarter hour, but McGrotty and Bingham gained a solid grip on the midfield and United stormed the Sutherland goal. Safeway's second goal, just on full-time, was as well executed as any seen at Woonona.

Crowd: 2,955.

Referee: A. McKenzie.

— PAUL POSETTI

TABLES

FIRST DIVISION

(Second Grade)	W	D	L	F	A	P
Safeway	1	—	—	4	1	2
APIA	1	—	—	2	0	2
Hakoah	1	—	—	0	1	2
Yugal-Prague	1	—	—	3	1	2
Pan Hellenic	1	—	—	3	2	2
St. George	1	—	—	4	4	2
Auburn	1	—	—	1	0	2
Marconi	1	—	—	1	3	0
Canterbury	1	—	—	2	3	0
Croatia	1	—	—	1	4	0
Sutherland	1	—	—	1	1	0
Wests	1	—	—	—	—	—

FIRST DIVISION

(Third Grade)	W	D	L	F	A	P
St. George	2	—	—	8	0	4
Marconi	1	—	—	3	0	2
Safeway	1	—	—	0	1	2
Pan Hellenic	1	—	—	2	0	2
Croatia	1	—	—	1	3	0
Hakoah	1	—	—	1	0	3
Yugal-Prague	1	—	—	1	0	3
Canterbury	1	—	—	2	2	0
APIA	1	—	—	2	2	0
Auburn	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sutherland	1	—	—	—	—	—
Wests	1	—	—	—	—	—

SECOND DIVISION

(First Grade)	W	D	L	F	A	P
Balgownie	1	—	—	4	1	2
Granville	1	—	—	2	1	2
Manly	1	—	—	2	1	2
Guildford	1	—	—	0	1	2
NS-Inter	1	—	—	0	0	1
Corinthians	1	—	—	1	2	0
Melita Eagles	1	—	—	1	2	0
Newtown	1	—	—	1	4	0
Bankstown	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marrickville	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polonia	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rapid	1	—	—	—	—	—

SECOND DIVISION

(Second Grade)	W	D	L	F	A	P
Guildford	1	—	—	7	0	2
Balgownie	1	—	—	3	1	2
Manly	1	—	—	2	0	2
Corinthians	1	—	—	1	0	2
Newtown	1	—	—	1	3	0
NS-Inter	1	—	—	1	0	7
Bankstown	1	—	—	—	—	—
Granville	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marrickville	1	—	—	—	—	—
Melita Eagles	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polonia	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rapid	1	—	—	—	—	—

SECOND DIVISION

(Third Grade)	W	D	L	F	A	P
Manly	1	—	—	3	0	2
Corinthians	1	—	—	1	0	3
Balgownie	1	—	—	1	0	3
Bankstown	1	—	—	—	—	—
Granville	1	—	—	—	—	—
Guildford	1	—	—	—	—	—
Marrickville	1	—	—	—	—	—
Melita Eagles	1	—	—	—	—	—
Newtown	1	—	—	—	—	—
NS-Inter	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polonia	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rapid	1	—	—	—	—	—

FIRST DIVISION

(Second and Third Grades)	W	D	L	F	A	P
St. George v. Hakoah	1	3	3	0	3	0
Yugal-Prague v. Marconi	3	1	0	3	0	3
APIA v. Auburn	2	0	—	—	—	—
P. Hellenic v. Canterbury	3	2	2	0	2	0
Wests v. Croatia	1	0	2	0	2	0
Safeway v. Sutherland	3	0	0	0	0	0

SECOND DIVISION

(All Grades)	W	D	L	F	A	P
Melita v. Granville	1	2	—	—	—	—
Polonia v. Marrickville	1	3	0	3	0	3
Newtown v. Balgownie	1	4	1	3	—	—
Rapid v. Bankstown	1	—	—	—	—	—
Guildford v. NS-Inter	0	0	7	0	—	—
Corinthians v. Manly	1	2	0	2	0	3

European Cup results

Champions' Cup: Celtic Glasgow (Scotland) v. FC Basel (Switzerland) 4-2; CSKA Sofia (Bulgaria) v. Bayern Munchen (West Germany) 2-1; Ujpest (Hungary) v. Spartak Trnava (Czechoslovakia) 1-1; Atletico Madrid (Spain) v. Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 0-0.

Semi-final draw: Ujpest v. Bayern; Celtic v. Atletico.

Cup-Winners' Cup: Borussia Moenchengladbach (West Germany) v. Glentoran (Northern Ireland) 5-0; Borac Stars Zagora (Bulgaria) v. FC Magdeburg (East Germany) 1-1; FC Zurich (Switzerland) v. Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 1-1; PAOK Salonika (Greece) v. AC Milan (Italy) 2-2.

Semi-final draw: Sporting v. Magdeburg; AC Milan v. Moenchengladbach.

UEFA Cup: Tottenham (England) v. FC Köln (West Germany) 3-0; Lokomotive Leipzig (East Germany) v. Ipswich (England) 1-0.

Semi-final draw: Feyenoord (Holland) v. VfB Stuttgart (West Germany); Leipzig v. Tottenham.

AUSTRALIA v. AUCKLAND 0-0

ANOTHER 'ROO SHOCKER AGAINST AUCKLAND

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Cruel jeers and sarcastic shouts of "You want \$8,000 for THAT?" echoed around the depressingly empty Sydney Sportsground last Wednesday as the Socceroos laboriously inched their way to an inglorious 0-0 draw with the Auckland XI.

The 2,975 spectators, who all deserve medals for sitting through a pathetically inept performance, let the players know in no uncertain terms what they thought of their financial demands for the World Cup.

And who could blame them as the Aussies again turned in one of those shockers they are famous for in practice matches.

The players were the first to admit they played diabolically. The Australian dressing-room was positively morgue-like after the game.

Rarely have I seen so many players flop miserably at the same time.

Doug Utjesenovic, Jim Mackay and Ray Baartz stood out singularly in that respect and played as though in a trance.

Their team-mates were not all that better, but Jack Reilly, Peter Wilson, Manfred Schaefer, Jim Rooney and Peter Ollerton at least didn't botch up just about everything they attempted.

Ollerton, in fact, was the only dangerous striker, but whether he is the man Rale Rasic is after for West Germany, where all eleven players will have to drop back to defend as per his World Cup tactics, is another matter.

Only Rale knows the answer to that one, but the APFA forward is a good



A brilliant action shot of Socceroo Attila Abonyi against Auckland last week.

sheilas, by reminding them of all the chances they missed and all the passes that went astray.

But I still wonder how Ray Baartz failed to score in the 67th minute when he shot over the bar from 12 metres after Pocock had laid the ball at his feet.

Sure, the Australians dominated the game territorially for long periods and were frustrated by the brilliant goalkeeping of Praven Jeram, but this is no excuse.

A 0-0 draw will go down in the record books as a terrible result against more than modest opponents.

JUBILANT

The Kiwis were understandably jubilant about forcing a draw. Good luck to them!

Unbelievably incompetent in the first half, they grew bolder as the game progressed and in the last 20 minutes actually enjoyed as much of the play as their opponents, but were just as inconclusive.

I hope that if the teams meet again next month in Auckland the New Zealand public will be treated to a better spectacle.

Australia: Reilly (Milisavljevic), Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran, Rooney, Mackay (Pocock), Harding, Baartz, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Auckland: Jeram, Sibley, R. Armstrong, Turner, Houghton, Ashurst (Legg), Hope-Eadst (Taylor), Tindall, De Graaf, Thomas (Elrick), R. Armstrong.
Referee: T. Davies.
Crowd: 2,975.

UNDER-23 TOURISTS

(from page 1)

Alan Maher, usually playing behind the Sutherland defence, is needle sharp. All his work confirms that Rasic was right in picking out the then inexperienced youngster to fill a place in the full Australian squad.

Queensland, too, can be proud of chunky Ken Jones. At the Sportsground the crowd gasped in wonderment as he bounced up for one miracle save.

At this stage players of the calibre of young Joe Senkalski, who wrote much of the north's success story in last year's National Youth Championship in Brisbane, and Canberra's prolific scorer Valeri are on the fringe of team selection.

The tour gives Eric Worthington just the opening he has been seeking to work towards development of a national side. He can be depended upon to use all his stratagems to produce the goods.

Backing the team management up are Brisbane medico, Dr. Keith Pearson, and physiotherapist Peter Van Ryn.

They're due back on Tuesday April 9 — with, we trust, the results — and some of that priceless experience that the away journeys bring.

Players in the squad are:

Kevin Jones (Qld.), Charles Dench (Qld.), John Fagan (Qld.), Walter Valeri (ACT), Warren Halverson (N. NSW), Joe Senkalski (N. NSW), Victor Juchmiewicz (N.NSW), Vincent Bannion (Vic.), Fausto Tarquino (Vic.), Mike Micevski (Vic.), Joe Palinkas (Vic.), John Genovesi (Tasmania), John Cichinski (SA), John Nyskobs (SA), John Davidson (WA), Gary Matellan (WA), Gary Byrne (NSW), Murray Barnes (NSW), Greg Lynch (NSW), Alan Maher (NSW).

are reversed, they are totally incapable of meeting the challenge.

The lack of creative, skilful players makes it extremely difficult to skirt a massed defence and as long as we cannot unearth that type of player in Australia we are doomed to struggle against weaker sides who leave the decision-making to us.

I have yet to see Australia play well in a warm-up match, yet, somehow, the team always manages to lift itself when the chips are down.

TOUGHER

What awaits the Socceroos in Germany is, of course, ten times tougher than anything they've ever faced in the past, but who is to say that after 25 days of intensive training and match practice they won't show the world their better face in Hamburg?

They surely want to because a display of the calibre of last week's would bring disaster against any of the 15 World Cup finalists, and that includes Haiti and Zaire.

In view of the most unsatisfactory training arrangements, which are all but non-existent, it is not all that surprising that the Australian team was so stunningly bad against Auckland.

Since things cannot get better, and will probably deteriorate further if the "track record" of Australian soccer is any indication, Rasic could do worse than to make up his mind at once on the team he intends to field in the World Cup opener.

He could then at least field this team every Wednesday from now on, no matter how puny the opposition, and keep his fingers crossed that when June comes around a certain degree of cohesion will have been reached.

I won't embarrass the Aussies, who paddled around like a lot of old

bet for a place in the "22". Dave Harding didn't make much of an impression one way or the other, but it is obvious that goal-keeper Reilly will be accompanying Jim Fraser and Milisavljevic to the finals and that Alan Maher will have to wait until 1978 to stake his World Cup claim.

Australia's inability to take charge against weaker opposition was cruelly exposed once more.

The Socceroos are so accustomed to playing against more skilful opponents where they have to do all the defending, that when they come up against an inferior team and the roles

BEATEN IN NEWCASTLE!

A last-minute goal by Mike Southworth enabled Northern NSW to defeat Auckland 2-1 in Newcastle last Friday.

Auckland opened the scoring midway through the first half by Adrian Elrick and the equaliser came four minutes before the interval when Ken James netted an opportunistic goal.

OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF NSW FEDERATION

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Marrickville v. Melita Eagles — Mackey Park
Granville v. Corinthians — Garside Park
NS-Inter v. Rapid-Riverside — North Sydney Oval

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Canterbury v. Western Suburbs — Arlington Oval
Croatia v. APFA — Marks Field
Sutherland v. Pan Hellenic — Seymour Shaw Park
Hakoah v. Safeway — Wentworth Park
Marconi v. St. George — Marconi Oval
Auburn v. Yugal-Prague — Mona Park
Balgownie v. Polonia — Balgownie Oval
Bankstown v. Newtown — Bankstown Soccer Centre
Manly v. Guildford — Inman Park

NEXT WEEK

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Newtown v. NS-Inter — Erskineville Oval
Rapid v. Manly — Marrickville Oval

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

Wests v. Sutherland — Drummoyle Oval
Croatia v. Canterbury — Marks Field
Pan Hellenic v. Hakoah — Wentworth Park
Safeway v. Marconi — Woonona Oval
St. George v. Auburn — Hurstville Oval
APFA v. Yugal-Prague — Lambert Park
Melita Eagles v. Balgownie — Mona Park
Granville v. Marrickville — Garside Park
Polonia v. Bankstown — Soccer Centre
Corinthians v. Guildford — Jubilee Oval

Smalltalk

Let's be blunt, as the situation demands: Australia's World Cup preparations are in total shambles.

The Australian Soccer Federation, hamstrung as always by the selfish State and club interests, has tragically failed in ensuring that our team would travel to Germany well braced and seasoned for the toughest tests imaginable.

The national team's last full international was on November 13, against South Korea — and the next one may be against Indonesia at the end of May.

In between, the team played twice against Ferencvaros, at a time that was described as "too early in the season, has just played an absolutely useless (and bad) training match against Auckland and may, also in May, line up against an English Third Division outfit.

SOME "PREPARATIONS"!

That is the sum total of our "preparations" for the world's greatest and toughest soccer tournament...

Something went wrong with the planning, ostensibly in the care of our "World Cup sub-committee." These people either couldn't understand the task they had to face or were too weak to fight for what they believed in.

In either case, they failed, as did those State officials who have hindered — if not sabotaged — the national team's midweek schedules.

Incompetence? Ignorance? Myopia? All three have played their part in leading to the present situation.

It is doubtful if any team has ever "prepared" amidst greater official apathy for a World Cup than Australia.

It is shades of the great 1965 fiasco all over again, when a national team marched bravely and blindly into the Phnom-Penh disaster.

A fat lot of use has been the syndicate's generous financial backing, too.

I think it would be time to tell the four sponsors that their money wasn't really spent on World Cup preparations but on financing our campaign during the qualification battles.

NOT TOO LATE

Is it too late to rectify the position? I don't think so.

It's obvious that the ASF cannot secure suitable training partners to come to Australia.

Even if the Sydney clubs agreed to release their players to the national team every Wednesday for an interstate match, the benefits of these games against weak opponents would be minimal.

The only remedy, in the 11th hour, is to bring forward the departure of the team and send them off to Europe not at the end of May, but at the beginning of it.

It shouldn't be too difficult for an enterprising organiser to jet to Europe at once and, on behalf of the ASF, arrange half a dozen midweek matches for the national team.

These could tune up the team reasonably well for the World Cup and at least partially ensure that no debacle of catastrophic proportions will befall Australia in Hamburg and Berlin.

DIFFICULT

I am conscious of the difficulties: time off for players from their work, disruption of the local competition, added expense, etc.

But for heaven's sake, why can't the people responsible understand at last that the World Cup is something you cannot merely flirt with?

The availability of the players should have been checked out ages ago; some of the consortium's funds should have been kept for just such a sortie to Europe.

If things go really wrong, with the team in the World Cup — and this could well happen — the ASF, the NSW Executive and some of the club administrators will have to share the terrible guilt and blame.

Wouldn't it be simpler to prevent any such likely disaster and the following autopsy?

Let's get something straight: in a world championship of any kind you cannot expect mercy.

The Australian ice hockey team's defeat at Grenoble recently in Group "C" of the world championship — among them a 0-20 loss to Switzerland — should be a warning.

BRAVADO NOT ENOUGH

Guts and bravado and all that won't suffice when Australia faces the two tough and skilled Germans and Chile: we will also need a well blended, physically fit team.

As both the match against Auckland and our "preparation plans" have proved, we haven't got such a team.

We have reached the 11th hour: the time for pipedreams has passed.

The ASF hasn't got a day to waste. Even after all this dithering and bickering, smart and brave action can prevent a looming soccer disaster.

If this action doesn't begin at once, the only thing left for our team will be intense prayer...

— MIKE RENWICK



HELP
LEGACY
all the year round



FAT "CAPS"

All the World Cup finalists in Germany except Zaire, Holland and Argentina will field players who have more international selections to their credit than Australia's most capped performer, Ray Baartz.

Below we list the most capped players in the 16 World Cup squads, their clubs, ages, positions and the number of times they have played for their country.

- ARGENTINA: Miguel Brindisi (Huracan), 23, midfielder: 35 caps.
- AUSTRALIA: Ray Baartz (Hakoah), 26, midfielder/striker: 46 caps.
- BRAZIL: Jairzinho (Botafogo), 29, winger: 81 caps.
- BULGARIA: Dimitar Penev (CSKA Sofia), 28, centre-back: 75 caps.
- CHILE: Francisco Valdez (Colo Colo), 29, midfielder: 50 caps.
- EAST GERMANY: Peter Duche (Jena), 32, centre-forward: 63 caps.
- WEST GERMANY: Franz Beckenbauer (Bayern), 28, centre-back: 75 caps.
- HAITI: Serge Ducoste (Aigle Noir), 29, fullback: 65 caps.
- HOLLAND: Rinus Israel (Feyenoord), 31, centre-back: 43 caps.
- ITALY: Giacinto Facchetti (Inter), 31, left-back: 72 caps.
- POLAND: Wlodzimierz Lubanski (Gornik), 26, striker: 67 caps.
- SCOTLAND: Denis Law (Manchester City), 33, striker: 52 caps.
- SWEDEN: Bjorn Nordqvist (PSV Eindhoven), 32, centre-back: 71 caps.
- URUGUAY: Pedro Rocha (Sao Paulo), 30, midfielder: 76 caps.
- YUGOSLAVIA: Dragan Dazic (Red Star Belgrade), 27, left-winger: 70 caps.
- ZAIRE: Kazadi Mwamba (TP Mazembe), 26, goalkeeper: 44 caps.

In a special interview with a Budapest daily, Hungarian and Ferencvaros star Florian Albert has officially confirmed his retirement plans. When asked about his future, Albert said he was keen to stay with Ferencvaros as assistant technical director — and never mentioned his Australian invitation.

● Spanish national coach Kubala had his car stolen in Barcelona last week. He has offered a \$300 reward for any information on the whereabouts of his Lancia.

● Barcelona have invited Glasgow Rangers, Boca Juniors (Argentina) and Dynamo Zagreb to their international tournament in August.

● Italian supreme Ferruccio Valcareggi is being tipped as Milan AC's coach next season, depending on how Italy performs in the World Cup.

● Johan Cruyff's phenomenal performances in Spain have not gone unnoticed in Holland where every two weeks charter groups of Dutch fans fly to Barcelona to watch their idol in action at the Camp Nou (Barcelona's home ground). The round trip, with two nights in Spain, costs \$80.

● Karl Decker, Austria's national coach in the early 1960's, has been elected president of the Austrian Coaches' Federation. He beat Max Merkel for the post. His first aim is to strengthen soccer's hold in the schools where interest in the game has been flagging recently.

● Uwe Seeler is said to have signed a new contract with Adidas which will guarantee him up to \$30,000 a year. The former star Hamburger SV and West German striker is now one of Adidas' big wheels.

● The Spanish club Oviedo (Eduardo Massey, former St. George and Croatia star once played there) have signed two more players from Paraguay, adding to their contingent of five South Americans, making their fans wonder why the deal was necessary when only two foreigners can play in any one match.

● FIFA have suspended the membership of Morocco and Sierra Leone, for failing to pay their annual dues. Ghana, South Korea, Mali, Panama, Mexico and Senegal received severe reprimand for late payments.

● The Polish association has agreed to release three 30-plus players to Western clubs: former national goalie Marian Szeja, Wilhelm Wilim and Tadeusz Polak.

● Burgnich, Inter's classy "libero", recently played his 400th Italian league match. Burgnich is 35 years old and still going strong. He has also played 60 times for Italy.

● Real Madrid's star winger, Pirri, has been suspended for four matches after being involved in a punch-up at Zaragoza. It was the first suspension in the player's brilliant 14-year career.

● Chiasso has set a most unenviable Swiss record by employing 13 different coaches in the past nine seasons. Even Australian clubs can't match that!

● Clamping down on clubs who sack their coaches before their contracted term is up, the Czechoslovak FA have also fined former international forward Ladislav Kacani, who quit his job with Lokomotiv Kosice. The fine was only nominal but enough to make it plain that the FA intend to make everyone honor their contracts (on both sides).

● "Izvestia," the mass-circulation Soviet newspaper, has criticised the industrial bosses who run soccer clubs from office desks in factories though knowing nothing about the game. From now on, Soviet clubs will have to be managed by people with a soccer background, like former players, coaches, referees, etc.

● Liechtenstein, the tiny European principality, has applied for a FIFA membership.

● The almost constant shuffle at the helm of Soviet soccer — new manager and coach after just about every two defeats — has swept Constantin Beskov back into managerial power. Previously Beskov worked as assistant national coach in 1955 and manager in 1963-64.

● Matoul (Lokomotive Leipzig) is the leading goalscorer in East German First Division. He has scored 19 goals in 22 matches. Fellow-internationals, Streich (Rostock) and Sparrwasser (Magdeburg), come next, with 14 goals each.

● When Panathinaikos beat PAOK 3-2 in Athens recently, the match marked a milestone in the career of the Panathinaikos skipper, "Mimi" Domazos. It was his 400th game for the club. Domazos, 33, was presented with a commemorative plaque by his club president before the kick-off.

● Helenio Herrera's wife, Flora, is opposed to his plans to continue his career when he recovers from his heart ailment. Signora Herrera, nee Gandolfi, wants her famous husband to go into business for himself, as a public relations consultant.

WORLD CUP DIARY

● The World Cup organisers are slightly suspicious of the Australian fans soon to invade Germany. According to their Press Bureau, Australians have bought 1406 match tickets — but have secured 2500 hotel rooms. Now they are wondering how those other 894 intend to get through the turnstiles...

● The Dutch Federation has informed national coach Dr. Fransesek Fedrhone that his contract, expiring on June 30, would not be renewed. That date, by the way, is halfway through the World Cup...

● Just before the recent Yugoslavia v. Spain World Cup elimination match, chief of the selectors Miljanic sent home from the training camp Dynamo Zagreb striker Vabec, after a heated argument. Since then Vabec has been omitted from the national squad, now under the firm control of Miljanic. Two weeks ago Vabec had his sweet revenge when Dynamo met Miljanic's club team, Red Star in a championship match and scored all three of Dynamo's goals in their 3-1 win.

● Poland's leading soccer weekly, "Piska Nozna", assesses five Polish players in "world class" — Jerzy

Gorgon, Leslaw Cmilowicz, Kazimierz Deyna, Wlodzimierz Lubanski and Robert Gadocha. Goalkeeper Tomaszewski and winger Lato are only rated "international class".

● Brazilian star Rivelino is tipping a Brazil v. Argentina World Cup final. "I'd like that age-old myth that South American countries can never do well in Europe dispelled once and for all", he says.

● Zaire completed an unprecedented grand slam of African titles when they also won the African Nations' Cup in Egypt last week. Zaire had to struggle, however, and only beat Zambia 2-0 after a replay in the final. Last year Zaire qualified as Africa's World Cup representative and its top club side, Vita, won the African Champions' Cup. Zaire impressed international observers in Egypt as a talented team which has modelled itself on Brazil.

● Leeds United manager Don Revie did not make Scottish internationals Bremner, Harvey, Lornier and Jordan available to Willie Ormond for this week's match against West Germany. Holton, the Manchester United stopper, was also prevented from playing for Scotland by orders of Tommy Docherty.

● If Manchester United go down to Second Division — and it's odds-on they will — then Arsenal will be the only English club which has had an uninterrupted stay in First Division since the war.

● Gunther Netzer is adamant he won't leave Real Madrid at the end of the season. "I have received several offers from Germany and Italy," he claims, "but I am happy in Spain. The team will perform much better next season."

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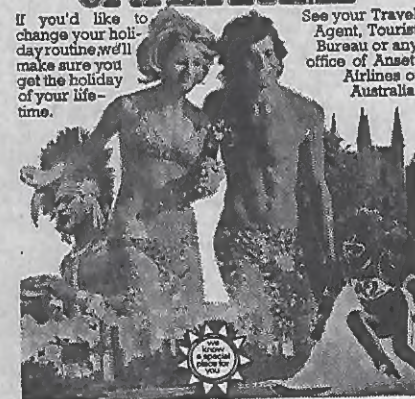
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WORLD CUP NEWS AND VIEWS



EDSTROM IS SWEDISH SOCCER'S GOLDEN BOY

In the spring of 1972, Georg Ericson, Sweden's team manager, was a worried and depressed man.

He couldn't be optimistic about Sweden's chances of reaching the World Cup finals 1974 even if he tried. 0-0 home to Hungary and 0-2 away to Austria in the first two qualifying games gave him no hope.

Then suddenly it happened.

Ericson brought a tall, dark long-haired teenager into his team — and now Sweden are in the World Cup finals.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Well, in a way it is.

The fact is that without Ralf Edstrom Sweden would have never made it.

Neither Georg Ericson nor the other players in his team can deny that.

Edstrom's tremendous heading ability and his personality brought enthusiasm into Swedish football — and now Georg Ericson can afford to be optimistic.

Sweden's prospects of a good run in the World Cup

finals look brighter than they did four years ago.

Sweden now have two prolific goalscorers who can take advantage of the chances created.

Ralf Edstrom and Roland Sandberg have proved that they can score goals against any team.

The defence was often put under heavy pressure last season, but it never panicked.

In midfield Sweden have the experience of Bo Larsson, Ove Granh and Ove Kindvall, all of them former strikers who can still score vital goals.



Sepp Maier, the West German goalkeeper, makes sure no one will take this ball away from him. The Bayern custodian is a worried man these days. His place in the World Cup team is far from secure. Kleff, of Moenchengladbach, and Schalke's Nigbur, are strong candidates for the position Maier has made his own for the past five years.

Organisers say "nein"

No gifts are given: stop sending in requests — this is the message from the West German World Cup organisers.

Recently they have been flooded by letters asking for posters, emblems, badges and even World Cup shirts.

As they cannot meet all requests, they have decided not to send out any.

PLACE IN LAST EIGHT WOULD PLEASE POLES

— From JERZY LASKI in Warsaw —

WARSAW — "If we can reach the second round, our team will return home as heroes," said Poland manager Kazimierz Gorski last week.

"Nobody expects Poland to win the World Cup or even reach the final. So our ambitions are limited."

Gorski has had his final plans approved. On May 19 the local competition will be suspended and the team will enter a training camp at Zakopane, the famous winter holiday resort, where they will stay until June 10.

Between now and June 10, Poland will play eight matches, including two against German club sides Fortuna Dusseldorf and VfB Stuttgart.

There is a great deal of method in all this: recently they played against Schalke,

so by June the Poles will have tested the grounds of Gelsenkirchen, Dusseldorf and Stuttgart, where some of their matches will be staged.

"We want to leave nothing to chance," said Gorski, "as the world expects the Olympic champions and England's conquerors to put up a good showing."

"If we still fail, we cannot blame ourselves for our lack of foresight and preparations." (Somewhat different from Australia's attitude — Editor).

Gorski is still hopeful that his star striker Wlodzimierz Lubanski will be totally fit by June.

"With him in the team, we will be 50 percent more effective," he said.

A new worry for Gorski is that in a recent match his powerful stopper, Gorgon, also suffered an injury and may be sidelined for some weeks.



The Poles will not go mad in their "encouragement" of the players with big offers or bonuses.

"Naturally, they will be looked after. The most they can expect is a flat or a car."

"But above all, if they do reasonably well, they will be celebrated as heroes..." Gorski added.

Were the East Germans foxing?

— From RUDI KOHLMEIER in Leipzig —

"Of this team Beckenbauer & Co. should have no fear..." This was the summary of most West German observers at the recent East Germany v. Belgium match.

The East Germans won 1-0 but failed to create a very good impression.

However, many local supporters now claim that manager Georg Buschner was foxing, when he fielded a new midfield and forward line against the Belgians.

His plan, was they say, to mislead Helmut Schoen, the West German manager, watching from the stands.

The East German defence was at its strongest and hardly ever tested by the Belgians.

Goalie Croy, for example, didn't have to save one decent shot during the 90 minutes.

The midfield and attack were, however, pretty lame without such regulars as Kreische, Frenzel, Ducke, Hafner, Pommerenke and Lowe.

It was only the speedy Streich who spelt danger to the Belgian goal.

Belgian coach Goethals was uncomplimentary after the game: "In technical skills, this East Germany is way behind the West Germans."

"Still, from their weak group, they should qualify for the second round at the expense of Chile and Australia."

Buschner wasn't dejected at all. "You will see a different team during the World Cup," was his only comment.

The East Germans played in this formation: Croy; Fritsche (Watzlich); Bransch, Weise, Kurbjuweit; Lauck, Schnuphase, Sparwasser; Streich, Matoul, Vogel.

CUBILLA DROPPED

Roberto Porta, manager of the Uruguay team, has dropped from his World Cup squad the brilliant Luis Cubilla for having missed, without acceptable excuse, two training matches.

Klaus Fischer is the name of the Schalke striker who would probably be an automatic selection for West Germany but for the fact that because of his involvement in the "Bundesliga scandal" of two years ago, he has been barred from the national side for ever.

Frauz Beckenbauer is in the best form of his life: in the weekly "Team of the Round" of the German Kicker magazine, he has appeared a fantastic 11 times in 25 rounds.



Chile's national team boss, Luis Alamos (standing in tracksuit on the right) conducting a practice session at the Chilean Federation's Juan Pinto Duran training headquarters.

Chile's special training puts Aussies to shame

— By CARLOS MENDOZA in Santiago —

Chile will undergo psychological training for possible demonstrations the team might face in West Germany.

Francisco Fluxa, the Chilean FA president, revealed at a recent Press conference how the team will be properly prepared for anything they may meet off the field during the World Cup finals.

Russia's elimination is only one reason why Chile expect trouble from left wing extremists in West Germany.

Drawn in the difficult group One — in which they face both West and East Germany — Chile have discovered this is far from being the end of their problems.

They must go into those games, and the one against Australia, without the guidance of Rudi Gutendorf, the man who helped them defeat Peru in their qualifying group.

Gutendorf, currently Munich 1860's coach, refuses to betray his fatherland by helping Chile, with whom his contract expired a year ago.

Another personality who will not be among Chile's party to the World Cup, is star fullback Elias Figueroa, who plays for the Brazilian club Internacional of Porto Alegre.

Marcelo Peijon, a club official explained: "We cannot let Figueroa go because he is our best player and we are going to need him for this year's Brazilian championship."

Mexico's disappointment at failure to qualify for the World Cup has not been made any easier to bear, since at least two players with Mexican First Divi-

on clubs are likely to figure in the finals.

Both will probably be included in Chile's party for the World Cup tournament.

They are sweeper Alberto Quintano and fullback Juan Rodriguez.

Quintano plays for Cruz Azul and has done so well that he was elected Footballer of the Year in Mexico last year.

Rodriguez plays for Atletico Espanol and scored the goal which put Chile through to the play-off with Russia.

Chile's national trainer Luis Alamos has been in Europe to watch the East Germany v. Belgium match (1-0) and the East Germany v. Czechoslovakia encounter on March 27.

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SYDNEY SECOND DIVISION RAIN PLAYED HAVOC WITH OPENING ROUND

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

The weather played havoc with the start of the competition and four teams missed out on the opening round, including newcomers Marrickville and Rapid River-side.

Most of the games in the lower grades were also postponed.

However, in the matches played, our forecast of a tough competition for the championship has been confirmed.

Balgownie, Granville and Melita will be the teams to fight it out for promotion. Highlights from last week's matches:

Newtown v. Balgownie 1-4

Wayne Ronald, the rangy striker from Bellambi scored two brilliant goals in his debut with the Magpies.

The game was played in pouring rain and the sea of mud cancelled out good football.

Newtown dominated the early stages and scored through Kokalis in the 10th minute, but goals by Ronald in the 15th, Fontana in the 20th and Cannon in the 44th gave Balgownie a commanding lead at halftime.

With no let-up in the weather, the ball was much heavier after the interval and both teams played "hit and miss" as the ball splashed dead without a bounce as it hit the waterlogged pitch.

However, Ronald managed to get another goal 20 minutes into the second half

to seal an exciting and convincing victory.

Newtown: Viotis, Mouhtaris, Koukis, Carmeo, Vlahos, Kehagias, Howard, Krazar (Page), Nezerites, Kokalis (1), Demos.

Balgownie: Lusk, Davies, Cropper, McLean, Hurley, Luck, Fontana (1), Royal, Ronald (2), Cannon (1), Freeme (Lavin).

Melita Eagles v. Granville 1-2

Despite the conditions, a large crowd turned out to watch a closely fought game which at times produced some fine football from both sides.

All three goals were scored in the first half and the interest and excitement kept the crowd in suspense to the final whistle.

There was little between the teams and the game flowed from one end to the other throughout.

Granville took the lead when Chris Spilarewicz collected a pass to slam home the first goal in the 10th minute, but Melita retaliated within two minutes with a brilliant 15-metre shot in the corner by Joe Farrugia.

Granville clinched victory in the 40th minute when a 25-metre drive by Laurie Waters completely deceived

the Melita goalkeeper, going high in the corner of the net.

The Eagles were a little unlucky in the second half when shots from Farrugia brought off two fine saves by young goalkeeper Steve Watson.

For the Eagles, Knaus, Cook and Farrugia had good games while for Granville, Watson, Selfridge and Spilarewicz were the best.

Melita Eagles: McKeech, Knaus, Cook, Van Blerk, Belenzucia, Molyneux (Hawkins), Farrugia (1), Henderson, Seiberras (Vrolyks), Dougan, Bankhead.

Granville: Watson, Selfridge, O'Maye, Brown, Gardiner, Waters (1), Spilarewicz (1), Fraser, Smith, Gilmour, Allan (Jones).

Corinthians v. Manly 1-2

Manly sorted all their problems in time for this match but had to rely on an own goal by Bert Jagger to collect both points from a rather scrappy game.

Archie Blue was cleared in time to play and Bill Hutchinson also sorted his differences with the club.

However, Manly were rather unimpressive and only led at halftime because of the own goal.

Johnny Mack who, incidentally, had a splendid game, scored the equaliser for Corinthians, but another defensive mistake let Manly in, this time through Colin Waller.

Manly had a lucky escape towards the end when a high shot was cleared off the line by fullback Phil Russell.

Corinthians: Richardson, McCulloch, Draddy, Mack (1), Jagger (o.g.), Newton, Stevens, Hendry, Evans, Pappas, Collier.

Manly: Greig, Russell, Dunwell, Gosling, Hutchinson, Stocks, Crawford, Mallam, Blue, Stonehouse, Waller (1) (Stedman).

Guildford v. NS-Inter 0-0

In a game very much affected by the heavy ground, a draw was perhaps a fair result.

Guildford had a few opportunities in the first 20 minutes, but the forwards failed to take them and whenever they broke through they found Fred Wupper in the Inter goal in great form.

Norths played better in the second half and had their chances too, but the game was dominated by the defences, which were in complete control throughout.

John Brewin played well for Guildford at centre-half while Norths' two new English fullbacks, Brian Maxwell and Robert Jones, were the pick of the team.

Guildford: Wilson, Parle, Bewin, Lowe, Schofield, Haydey (Cornford), Ashby, Coleman, Lambert, Dobbin, Williams.

NS-Inter: Wupper, Jones, Maxwell, Spresian, Ribera, Impezzeri, Latimer, Polietto (Somner), Massi, Dimento, Rushworth.

THIS WEEK

All the top teams seem to have drawn "weak" opposition in Round 2.

However, as always, there could be upsets and the ones that could surprise are newcomers Marrickville against Melita, who will be out to prove themselves.

Other outsiders will include Corinthians, against Granville at Garside Park, and Polonia, away to Balgownie.

I tip Melita, Granville and Balgownie to win well, with Rapid Riverside, Newtown and Manly to collect full points also.

Amateur kick-off one week away

Next weekend will see the opening of a very exciting season for Third Division, and Inter-suburban Divisions I, II and III.

Looking at Third Division, Wenty Warabins have looked well in the trials, and it is on the cards that they could shoot up the table.

Return of in-form Les Gathercole from Melita has helped and also having Des Ryan in a Wenty shirt again.

Leithbridge Park were going well and Wenty downed them 5-1, and they recorded the same score against Eastwood Town last Sunday.

They collected a 2-2 draw with Northern Districts.

Ku-ning-gai coach Nic Dalgleish is producing a well-conditioned, hard-running side.

They have Paul Lamb (ex-North Sydney) to replace Duncan Wilson in goal, and have collected some real talent by combing the district competition.

Out West Sutherland way the club has gained some experienced players from the Qantas club and are facing the season with plenty of confidence.

— KEITH GILMOUR

COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

With the final preliminary round scheduled for Olympic Park this Saturday night, the Ampol Cup heads for its concluding stages with the semi-finals due next week and the final the week after:

This Saturday's fixtures are:
George Cross v. Polonia
SM Hellas v. Slavia

George Kotaridis, the Melbourne defender, is presently back in Greece on a holiday.

Eddie Boyd, the Slavia striker who joined the club three years ago after playing with Dumbarton and in English non-league soccer, is another player who is returning to the UK soon. Boyd has been a consistent performer and a goalscorer since joining Johnny Sanchez' team.

Gilbert Martin, who has been back and forward several times as secretary of Juventus in the past decade and more, has once again resigned after reported differences with the club administration.

BARRY WEBB BACK?

Two years ago Austria in their first season in State League soccer caused something of a stir by finishing in the top half of the ladder in sixth position. Last year, however, they went to the pack and only the diabolical displays and results of Box Hill saved them from relegation. Man they missed last season was Barry Webb, their top scorer in 1972 whose studies kept him from playing soccer. Now that Barry has intimated he will be back this season, Austria's prospects could be enhanced. And Barry's brother John, also a striker, who had a lean time last year, could also benefit from his return. The Webbs are Londoners.

One of the bright spots of 1974 so far is the remarkable comeback of Keith Webster, the Juventus utility player who broke his leg last season in the match against Wilhelmina. Keith, a "Geordie" from the Newcastle district who played as a professional with Newcastle, Darlington, York City and Notts County before coming to Australia to join Juventus five years ago, has been in great form in the night soccer and at 29 he still has many more years left in State League soccer.

A year ago the big Wilhelmina goalkeeper Hans Van Egmond went into dispute with the club and stood on the touchlines all season. His place was filled admirably by the veteran Tom Carmichael (ex-Lions) who came out of retirement. Now with Van Egmond back between the sticks for the Ringwood side, it is reported that Tom Carmichael is having differences with Wilhelmina although the issue has not been revealed.

Did South Melbourne-Hellas err in allowing striker David Gorrie to transfer to Juventus last year? It seems so as reports indicate they would like to have their former player back and especially when they have lost their scoring touch and are reported to be looking for a striker.

LIONS' JUNIORS

Former State League club Lions, who have wallowed near the bottom of the First Division since they were relegated three years ago, are banking on a long-term policy of juniors. At present they have over 100 lads of all ages being put through their paces at Montgomery Park, which is badly in need of renovation and repair.

Moorebank, who make their debut in State League soccer next month, recently secured the brothers Stewart and David Black from Dandenong in a player-exchange deal.

Tipped to pack his bags from his present club — South Melbourne-Hellas — is former Croatia striker Billy McIntyre, who three years ago scored a hat-trick for Croatia in the Inter-City Ampol Cup final in Sydney against Western Suburbs. McIntyre, who comes from Port Glasgow and had a spell with Aberdeen, is tipped to join Hugh Murney's Albion Rovers in the First Division.

Just at a time when they had practically resolved all their player problems and got Ian Shanks, Bob Dobbing, Ian McCarthy and Alistair Scott back in action, Melbourne have suffered a crushing blow with the news that the talented Scot and scorer, Gordon Bentley, is likely to be out of action for about six months after suffering a leg break in a recent practice match against the State team.

EIGHT-TEAM LADIES' LEAGUE

The Victorian Women's Soccer Association is hoping to get their eight-club league started next month.

Eddie Widera, the Polonia forward who has been with the club for the past five years, is heading home to Poland shortly following in the way of Polonia's coach Richard Gamanski.

Controversial and colorful Mike O'Hara, a former State side 'keeper, is back with Slavia after being out of action for a long time through dispute. Mike, formerly played for Hakoah, and his English club was Swindon Town.

The decline of Box Hill, who were once again relegated from the State League, continues as this old club, who only last year celebrated their 50 years in soccer, made a lightning exit from this year's Dockerty Cup when they were knocked out in the first round by East Melbourne. And East Melbourne last year were just about the lowest of the lowest, finishing second from the bottom of the Metropolitan Fourth Division.

— JIM COOK

WESTS WILL PROMOTE ENGLISH SCHOOLS TOUR

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Western Suburbs is about to undertake the biggest promotion of its kind in the history of Australian soccer — the \$40,000 budget Australian tour of the English schools under-15 international side.

The club sponsors High School competitions as well as the Western Suburbs District Association, and from this close interest has stemmed the proposal to promote the first full international schools tour.

An event of this magnitude will have to draw 70,000 spectators plus to break even financially, from just five fixtures.

Eric Worthington, who returned last week from a short trip to London, expressed full satisfaction on progress made at that end.

Frank Degen, of Bankstown Boys High School, is the first president of the Australian Schools Soccer Federation.

He is looking forward to this opportunity to test Australian schoolboys against the English schools' team.

Proper promotion of top schoolboy football has been a big event since time immemorial in Europe and it is about to arrive here.

The Australian and NSW Federations, in supporting the tour, have given a lead that surely will be followed right through schools and junior ranks.

What have we to gain? To build up our youth players for the future of the game!

International schools football is normally played at under-15 and 18 levels. The former is usually the biggest draw as invariably all the best players are still at school.

Top attendance for an international in 1973 in England was 55,000 for a match against the Netherlands at Wembley.

England took the Victory Cup in competition with Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

In all eight internationals played they went down only once — 4-2 to Scotland before a 32,500 Wembley crowd.

This is the sort of area that Western Suburbs are opening up for Australian schools' football — an opening that every youngster can head for.

West will have a sub-committee planning the tour, and the schools will work along with them.

The Committee is chaired by Jack Churchill, a director of Wests, who has had much experience in both school and junior football as well as the seniors.

Included also are former ASF secretary Ian McAndrew, Ray Thompson, Norm Scott and Brian Le Fevre of the ASF.

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